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OFFICIAL REPORTS



[All communications for this department must be sent to the office of the Editor-in-Chief at Rochester, N. Y.]

STATE MEETINGS

INDIANA.—The third annual convention of the Indiana State Nurses' Association was held in Indianapolis on September 11 and 12. The annual meeting is held each year during State Fair week, as there are reduced rates on all railroads. The meeting was called to order at eleven o'clock by the president, Mrs. E. G. Fournier. Invocation by the Rev. T. J. Villers. The welcome address was made by Mayor Holtzman, the response by Miss Hicks, of Fort Wayne. Mrs. May Wright Sewall, honorary president of the International Council of Women, gave an address on "The Modern Nurse and Her Relation to Life." The afternoon session was devoted to routine business and reports of societies. The reports read from local societies showed a gain in interest and organization since last meeting. Some societies have a regular course of study, others arrange clinics in surgery for their members, while some have programmes, where the nurses read papers or have addresses on interesting subjects by the medical profession. Reports were made by the delegates, Miss Grant and Miss Sollers, to the convention at Washington, D. C. On Monday evening the City Hospital Alumnae Society gave a reception at the City Hospital, celebrating their twenty-first anniversary. At this reception Dr. W. N. Wishard gave a very interesting address on the organization of the Training-School, the second one organized west of the Allegheny Mountains. The third session was devoted to election of officers and the reading of papers, "The Nursing of Nervous and Mental Diseases," by Miss E. M. Baker; "Pulmonary Tuberculosis," Miss K. McManus; "The Organization and Progress of Training-Schools in America," by Miss E. Stevenson; "Obstetrical Nursing," Miss L. Partch. In the afternoon of the 12th the nurses visited the laboratories of Eli Lilly & Co., following this a trolley-ride. On Wednesday, September 13, the nurses visited the Indianapolis Crematory. They then divided, part going to a surgical clinic by Dr. L. H. Dunning at Deaconess Hospital and those interested in electro-therapeutics to Dr. W. B. Fletcher's sanatorium. The semi-annual meeting will be held at Lafayette next spring. Officers elected: President, Mrs. E. G. Fournier, superintendent of the Training-School of the Hope Hospital, Fort Wayne, Ind.; first vice-president, Miss Edna Humphrey, Crawfordsville; second vice-president, Miss Clara A. Carr, superintendent of the Training-School of the Epworth Hospital, South Bend; secretary, Miss F. M. Grant, superintendent of the Training-School of the City Hospital, Indianapolis, Ind.; treasurer, Miss Anna Reim, Indianapolis; chairmen of Standing Committees: Credentials—Miss Minnie L. Prang, Indianapolis; By-Laws—Miss Iizzobeth Heffner, La Fayette; Publication—Mrs. N. H. Kipp, Indianapolis; Arrangements—Miss Mary B. Sollers, superintendent of the Training-School of the Home Hospital, Lafayette, Ind. A Nominating Committee of three was elected: Chairman, Dr. Maude W. McConnell, Indianapolis; Miss Lena Weaver, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Miss Minnie Moore, Lafayette.

CONNECTICUT.—The Graduate Nurses' Association of Connecticut held a regular quarterly meeting in New London on September 6, Mrs. Mary T. Fuller in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. J. Romaine Danforth. Then followed a piano solo, prettily rendered by little Miss Madeline Damer. Dr. F. N. Bramen, dean of the New London Memorial Hospital, made an address of welcome to the nurses, in which he said that they had selected a day almost sacred to New London, it being the anniversary of its burning by the English in 1777. He called their attention to Nathan Hale's School, the Old Mill, and several other places in the old town that are of interest to Connecticut people generally. Dr. Danforth gave a very interesting talk on "Things that are Worth While Doing," which seemed especially appropriate to nurses with their varied experiences. The business of the association was then taken up, the principal matter in discussion being the revision of the by-laws. When the meeting adjourned the members were taken for a trolley-ride through the pretty town and out to "White Beach," where they had a picnic in the shape of a basket lunch. The Executive Board had its meeting at the beach, and then the association visited the Memorial Hospital, which has an ideal situation on a hill, not far from the beach. The meeting was well attended, and was satisfactory in every way.

JEANNIE M. CAMPBELL, Corresponding Secretary.

MARYLAND.—The Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nurses reports three hundred and nine application papers sent out, upon request, and one hundred and thirty-seven of these have been filled out and returned. Seventy-nine nurses have been registered and twenty are waiting for further investigation. Thirty-eight applications have been received since the last meeting of the board. The board cautions the nurses to read their papers very carefully before returning them to the secretary, making sure that all of the questions are answered, and answered correctly, as omissions and errors cause delays. The board realizes that in a State where registration is as new as it is in Maryland, it is not always possible to find a nurse already registered who can sign as a voucher, but when unknown nurses—possibly from unknown and distant schools—sign the certificate it is necessary to investigate both school and voucher as well as the applicant. This makes the problem more difficult and adds greatly to the time required before the nurse can be registered. Attention is called to the fact that the months are slipping by in which it is possible for nurses, eligible for registration in the State of Maryland, to register without examinations. Only eight months remain before June 1, 1906.

MARY CARY PACKARD, Secretary.

NEW YORK STATE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING.—The semi-annual meeting of the New York State Nurses' Association will be held at Niagara Falls on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 17 and 18, 1905. The headquarters will be at the new annex of the Temperance Hotel, and business meetings will be held at Convention Hall in the National Food Company Building, beginning at ten A.M. and two P.M.

FRIDA L. HARTMAN, Secretary,
82 East Eighty-first Street, New York City.

OHIO.—The annual meeting of the Ohio State Association of Nurses will be held in Cleveland, O., on Tuesday, October 17 and 18. All graduate nurses are invited to attend the meetings.

ELIZABETH M. HARTSOCK, Secretary.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MINNEAPOLIS.—The annual meeting of the Hennepin County Graduate Nurses' Association was held at the Nurses' Club, 1502 Third Avenue S., Thursday afternoon, September 14, at three o'clock. Twenty-five members were present and much enthusiasm manifested. The secretary reported a membership of one hundred and twenty-three on the roll. Seven resigned, one died, and nine were dropped from the roll for non-payment during the past year. The treasurer shows a balance of forty-one dollars and five cents in the treasury. In the educational line considerable has been accomplished. Subjects pertaining to the elevation and progress of nursing are discussed at all monthly meetings. The registry in charge of Dr. Marion A. Mead has been a decided success. During the past six months more than five hundred calls for nurses have been received in and out of the city. Rising votes of thanks were tendered Dr. Mead, the registrar, and Miss Bertha Erdmann, the retiring president, for their faithful work. The officers for the coming year are: President, Miss Edith Rommell; first vice-president, Miss Cora Smith; second vice-president, Miss Carrie Rankiellour; secretary, Mrs. C. A. Roberts; treasurer, Miss Elva Bosworth. After the meeting refreshments were served and an enjoyable half hour spent.

MINNEAPOLIS.—How fortunate the nurses of Minnesota were to meet and listen to Miss Palmer's talk on "State Registration" the first of September, while passing through on her journey home from the coast. Surely such encouragement and good advice cannot help but bear fruit. It came at a very opportune time, while we are in our "early stage" of organizing, and was an inspiration to all. After listening to a woman of Miss Palmer's experience one cannot help but realize the enormous amount of work and efforts put forth to accomplish State registration. After the meeting an informal reception followed, and the "trolley-car" took all to St. Paul, where a dinner awaited them. A reception at the Nurses' Club-House filled the evening hours.

CAMDEN, N. J.—An adjourned annual meeting of the Alumnae Association of the Cooper Hospital Training-School of Camden, N. J., was held Monday evening, September 11, in the Nurses' Home at the hospital. It was decided to hold the meetings of the association at the "Nurses' Directory" at 536 Stevens Street hereafter. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss G. Michaels; first vice-president, Mrs. F. J. Kelly; second vice-president, Miss M. G. Woods; secretary, Miss M. F. Smith; treasurer, Miss M. E. Rockhill. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Monday evening, October 2, 1905.

BUFFALO.—At the June meeting of the Buffalo General Alumnae the following officers were elected: President, Miss DeCue; vice-president, Miss Rothfus; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Taylor; recording secretary, Mrs. Storch; treasurer, Miss K. I. Kennedy; historian, Miss Hayes; Executive Committee—Mrs. Nye, Miss Steele, Miss Griffin.

CORRECTION.—On page 800 of the August number, sixth line from the top, read "Gardner" instead of "Falconer."

BIRTHS

IN May, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hull Birdseye, of Oklahoma. Mrs. Birdseye was Miss Alice Merwin, Johns Hopkins, Class of 1899.

IN Baltimore, August 28, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson Norris (*née* Cabell Perkins, Johns Hopkins, Class of 1897).

MARRIAGES

AUGUST 23, in Altoona, Pa., Miss Margaret Grace Fay to Dr. H. O. Sappington, of Galveston, Tex. Mrs. Sappington graduated in the Class of 1898, University of Pennsylvania Hospital, and occupied the position of superintendent of the John Sealy Hospital, Galveston, for two years, but for the past year she held the same position at Germantown Hospital, Philadelphia. Dr. and Mrs. Sappington will be at home after October 1 in Galveston, Tex.

By the Rt. Rev. Bishop Brent, at the Episcopal residence, Manila, P. I., August 14, 1905, Lucile E. S. Flick, late of the Army Nurse Corps, and chief nurse Division Hospital in that city, to William Tracy Page, son of Brigadier-General John H. Page, United States Army, retired. Mr. and Mrs. Page will reside in Manila.

IN Chicago, August 1, Miss Emma J. Kraiger to Mr. Conrad Striewing. Mrs. Striewing was a graduate of the Woman's Hospital, Chicago, and had charge of that hospital for sixteen years.

AT New York, N. Y., August 2, 1905, Miss Hazel Wilcox, graduate of Bridgeport Hospital Training-School, Class of 1904, to Dr. Walter Keirnan, of Newtown, Conn.

AT Lakewood, N. J., July 26, 1905, Miss Anna Walters, graduate of Bridgeport Hospital Training-School, Class of 1903, to Clarence H. Shinn.

OBITUARY

MEMORIAL TO MRS. M. H. LAURANCE *

It is eminently fitting on this reunion to pay some tribute of respect to our deceased friend and co-worker, Mrs. M. H. Laurance. In the brief interval of a year death has entered our ranks and removed from us one of our most esteemed and useful leaders. I suppose none in this assemblage of nurses could claim any degree of intimacy with her, yet all who have come in personal contact with her must have felt the impress of quiet dignity and reserve, the perfect candor, and fine judgment and executive ability which were her characteristics. Always active and progressive in nursing affairs, she easily imparted the inspiration for higher ideals and achievements to those about her.

In her biography we have little outside the professional career. In a letter containing data of her life, her friend, Mrs. Barber, says: "I am sending you all I can remember of what Mrs. Laurance has told me of her past life; she was a woman who spoke very little of herself, even to me, her dearest friend."

Mary Hammond Laurance was born at West Malling, Kent, England, February 12, 1866. She was a daughter of William Jesse and the late Elizabeth

* Read at the North Carolina State Nurses' Association by Miss B. Dunn, Raleigh, N. C.

Mary Ludford. At the age of nineteen she graduated from the Training-School for Nurses connected with St. Mary's Hospital, London, England, and had entered upon a post-graduate course in the same school when she met and married Dr. Francis Laurance.

This, however, did not deter her from pursuing the noble work for which she was so rarely gifted, and to which she dedicated her life. Together husband and wife devoted themselves to the beautiful charity of slum-work in London for three years.

Then came the tragedy of her husband's sudden death, followed in quick succession by the death of her mother and her infant. The terrible shock caused a long and critical illness.

In the spring of 1888 Mrs. Laurance left England, going to Montreal, Canada, where she remained for two years in a diphtheria hospital. Next she went to Albany, N. Y., then to Roosevelt Hospital, New York City, where she served as head nurse for several years. Next we find her in Maryland; then in a private hospital in Cincinnati, O. Here *again* the frail but dauntless body succumbed to disease. She was operated upon there and was in the hospital for a year.

On regaining her health, she became superintendent of nurses at the Washington City Hospital. After two years she resigned this position to go home to England. On returning to this country she accepted the position of superintendent of nurses at St. John's Hospital, Yonkers, N. Y. Another serious illness forced her to resign this position after a period of two and one-half years. In December, 1898, she became matron and superintendent of nurses at the Franklin County Hospital, Greenfield, Mass. Three years later she resigned this position to become superintendent of Rex Hospital, Raleigh, N. C., which position she had until her death, September 10, 1904. Here, possibly, were some of the most fruitful efforts of her career. In an incredibly short time she brought order out of chaos, improved and elevated the nursing conditions, and saved the hospital from what threatened to be a financial death. She was vice-president of our North Carolina State Nurses' Association, one of the Board of Directors, and also one of the State Examining Board for Nurses.

After a long illness she was taken to Leyden, Mass., where she died at the home of her dear friend, Mrs. Barber, her body resting in the Barber lot at her own request.

And boldly may it be said of her, that she died—

*"At least, not rotting like a weed,
But, having sown some generous seed,
Fruitful of further thought and deed."*

SEPTEMBER 8, at New Haven, Conn., of typhoid fever, Miss Elizabeth Kenny Ruth, graduate of the Bridgeport Hospital, Class of 1901.

